5

The method according to claim 1/3 wherein said composition (Amended) additionally comprises pyruvate selected from the group consisting of sodium pyruvate, calcium pyruvate, magnesium pyruvate, potassium pyruvate, pyruvyl-creatine, pyruvyl-glycine, [pyruvamides] pyruvamines, pyruvyl-alanine, pyruvyl-glutamine, pyruvyl-leucine, pyruvylvaline, pyruvyl-isoleucine, pyruvyl-phenylalanine, pyruvyl-proline, pyruvyl-sarcosine, their amides, esters and salts and mixtures thereof.

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 26 are currently pending in this application. Applicant has withdrawn claims 1 - 8, 11 - 12, and 22 - 26 from consideration. Entry of the above amendments to the Specification and Claims is requested. The Examiner has indicated that the remaining claims, and Claim 14 as amended, are believed to be allowable over the art of record and an early notice of allowance is requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney in the event that any further amendments are required to place the application in condition for an early allowance.

15

10

Respectfully submitted,

SEAN M. CASEY CO., L.P.A.

20

25

Registration No. $39,5\overline{14}$

P.O. Box 710

New Albany, Ohio 43054-0710

Telephone: (614) 222-0800 Facsimile: (614) 222-0800

30 /sc

c:\library\clients\beale 1207 bemr-52411\003 pyruvate & anabolic protein\003d-003 us 09-213,968\20000925